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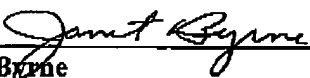
September 20, 2005

**TO:** Examiner Michael Cuff  
**COMPANY:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office – Art Unit 3627  
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**FROM:** Rudolph P. Hofmann  
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**RE:** U.S. Patent Application No. 09/470,041  
Attorney Docket No.: 60021-339701

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I hereby certify that an Amendment and Response to Office Action is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date listed below.

  
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Serial No. 09/470,041

In reply to: Office Action mailed June 21, 2005

Page 1 of 10

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial #: 09/470,041  
Applicant: William Ng  
Filed: December 22, 1999  
Title: INITIATION OF BIDDING IN A VIRTUAL TRADE FINANCIAL ENVIRONMENT  
Group Art: 3627  
Examiner: Michael A. Cuff  
  
Docket #: 60021-339701 (AND1P397)

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Janet Byrne

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated June 21, 2005. Please amend the above-identified as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.